

## Premiere of DAB+ Automatic Safety Alerts in Asia at ABU DBS 2025

**18 February 2025**

A first look at the life-saving Automatic Safety Alert (ASA) system on DAB+ will be available to delegates at this year's Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) Digital Broadcasting Symposium (DBS), held from 24 - 27 February in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The event is the premier technical symposium in the APAC region focussing on the broadcasting industry.

WorldDAB — the global industry forum for DAB+ digital radio — is again a major sponsor of ABU DBS, presenting an expert DAB+ workshop and hosting a DAB+ Pavilion at the conference exhibition. The Pavilion features several major solution providers: Aldena, AVT Audio Visual Technologies, Paneda, and RadioDNS. WorldDAB member Digidia is also exhibiting at ABU DBS.

During the conference, delegates from across the region will have the opportunity to witness the first demonstrations in Asia of the new ASA system. The technical standards for this innovative feature were published by ETSI in September 2024. Product testing certification will be available to manufacturers in the coming weeks, with the first consumer receivers incorporating ASA available to consumers later this year.

WorldDAB will host a DAB+ workshop on 24 February from 09:30 MYT, on "Innovations in implementing DAB+: safety and efficiency". As part of this, ASA will also be featured, with Lindsay Cornell, Chair of the WorldDAB Technical Committee, providing a detailed description of its capabilities and introduction to broadcasting systems worldwide. The workshop will also include updates on DAB+ establishment progress from SE-Asian and African countries and features presentations on the latest developments from major suppliers of multiplexer, transmitter, antenna and monitoring systems with an emphasis on safety and efficiency.

The theme of the workshop flows into the main conference, with several DAB+ presentations including Lindsay Cornell on the benefits of ASA, Nick Piggott, Project Director of RadioDNS and Vice-President of WorldDAB, on the benefits of hybrid radio in vehicles, and Dr. Les Sabel on why DAB+ is the "green choice" for digital broadcast radio.

WorldDAB Project Director, Bernie O'Neill said: "We're delighted to be part of ABU DBS once again, showcasing the many benefits of DAB+. Asia is a key development area for us with strong growth across the region. We're pleased that the Thai regulator NBTC recently published its Digital Broadcasting Frequency Plan and Technical Standards for Digital Broadcasting Equipment and Receivers, while planning is well underway for developments in Indonesia, and in Malaysia there are further DAB+ studies taking place. We look forward to sharing with DBS delegates the demo of DAB's emergency warning feature — ASA — offering broadcasters in the region a vital feature that will help save lives across the region.

**Graphics:**

1. Teo Nie Ching, Deputy Minister of Communications, Malaysia speaks to Bernie O'Neill, Project Director, WorldDAB at the DAB+ Pavilion at ABU DBS 2024
2. Bernie O'Neill, Project Director, WorldDAB speaks at ABU DBS 2024
3. Lindsay Cornell, Chair, WorldDAB Technical Committee, speaks at ABU DBS 2024
4. ASA receivers on display on a WorldDAB stand
5. WorldDAB ABU DBS 2025 graphic
6. WorldDAB logo

**Notes to editors**

- WorldDAB Project Director, Bernie O'Neill and other speakers are available for interview, please contact WorldDAB
- The ABU Digital Broadcasting Symposium 2025 is held 24 - 27 February 2025 at the Wyndham Acmar Hotel. The symposium is held each year in Kuala Lumpur. It consists of a conference, an exhibition, masterclasses and workshops, and attracts close to 1,500 participants annually, representing over 350 organisations across the region and beyond.

**About Automatic Safety Alerts**

WorldDAB's work to develop Automatic Safety Alerts (ASA) for DAB+ was recognised last month by Paris Radio Show Grand Prix Awards. ASA was nominated in the "Best Technical Innovation" award - the category recognising new concepts, emerging technologies and innovative solutions.

Three key features make this DAB+ emergency warning system different from every other system available:

- location targeting- only people in affected areas are notified
- signalling between ensembles - receivers analyse references to warning announcements on other radio stations, increasing the flexibility and reach of the warnings
- wake up modality - receivers can be woken up by DAB+, especially important for alarm clock radios

Further details of Automatic Safety Alerts are on the [WorldDAB website](#) and on the [Digitalradio Büro Deutschland website](#) (in German)

**About WorldDAB**

WorldDAB is the global industry association responsible for defining and promoting DAB digital radio. By bringing together radio industry professionals, WorldDAB provides knowledge and expertise that helps countries successfully adopt and implement broadcast digital radio.

Our 1500+ experts from 118 member organisations in 40 countries across the globe include public and commercial broadcasters, regulators, network providers and manufacturers of receivers, chips, professional equipment, and automobiles.

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